



# COLLEGE

# NEWS



Vol. 1. No. 20.

WELLESLEY, MASS., THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1902.

Price, 5 Cents.

## SCHOLARSHIPS.

In this issue the COLLEGE NEWS prints signed statements of prominent students containing their views concerning the Wellesley and Durant scholarships. It has been the aim to select representative students whose combined opinions, in a very general way, of course, may be said to represent the larger College feeling. With this end in view students have been selected from the Senior, Junior and Sophomore classes, students who have attained the Durant and Wellesley College Scholarship, or honorable mention, and those who have not. Furthermore, the students have been selected without any previous knowledge of the opinions held by them. We have thought that under such conditions and with such selections, and considering that the scholarships seem to be the question of the hour, such statements cannot fail to be of general interest.

It cannot be that the faculty understood the quality of our feeling against the honor scholarships. We do not deny their right to give us this ranking system; that would, of course, be absurd. But as recipients of an enforced gift, we may surely speak our mind upon it. What we fear as a consequence of this system is the growth of that academic degradation "working for marks." It is well enough to say that a system cannot be cast aside simply because some girls may abuse it; in other words, to say that a recognition must be given and the consequences disregarded. But a fact or a deed cannot be thus isolated; the after results must be considered, and we students know, if the faculty do not, that there are many girls foolish enough to take the sign for the thing; to accept an honor list as a goal, to the utter ignoring of all higher academic ideals. The question will be not "Is she sincerely and deeply a student?" but "Is she on the honor list?"

BESSIE W. MANWARING, 1902.

The question of the advantage of our honorary scholarships seems to me one for our honor girls to answer. The system was instituted, I believe, to give them recognition for scholarly work done. If they feel that to have their names read in chapel is an adequate reward for their academic labors, and that thereby they gain recognition in the College, the system is serving its purpose. I should think either the reward is entirely superfluous or entirely inadequate, I do not know which. If it is superfluous—and the honor girls ought to be able to answer that—our old plan of work for work's sake would be better. If it is inadequate, why is it not possible that some day soon we may have Phi Beta Kappa at Wellesley, an honor system recognized by other colleges?

C. H. LOVENZEN, 1902.

Since the purpose of the honor scholarships is to recognize attainment and to excite to a higher standard of work, it seems unfortunate that the terms of the agreement should be such as to limit recognition and excitation to students of unusual power. Would not the effect on the mass of the student body be more promptly noticeable if all marks were posted—say twice a year, in February and in June?

ANNE SCOTT CARLISLE, 1902.

The honorary scholarships operate as a recognition and as a stimulus, under the latter aspect they affect not the great mass of students, but a few; and it is to be doubted if even with the few, such a stimulus to better work does not defeat its own end, by being a goal to be struggled toward, rather than a reward for honest work well done. As a recognition honors cannot be awarded with perfect fairness; for so long as different instructors teach the same subject, or one course is hard, another easy; or a student gives a better impression in the class-room than she deserves, so long marks will be unfair, and honorary scholarships are founded upon marks. Supposing, however, this unfairness reduced to a minimum, the fact remains that no matter how hard a girl may try to work for work's sake, she will not be able to forget that upon her showing in class or examination depends her chance for the honors that are sweet to every one. She will be less given to spending time on individual work a little off the beaten track; she will care more for the brilliancy of a recitation; she will be feverishly concerned with her fate in quizzes; she will tend to become self-conscious in her work. Now at college, if anywhere, one looks to find, back of all the talk and gayety and fudge-parties, a deepening, broadening life of the mind. There at least among the books is freedom from pettiness and envy, calmness, a clearer air. To introduce a system of prizes for results is to poison such happiness at its source.

CONSTANCE DRAPER, 1902.

I regret the introduction of the honor system into our work at Wellesley because it seems to me to put college work on a false basis; to make of it an end, rather than a means. Public recognition implies public service rendered, whereas the mere acquisition of knowledge may be the most selfish of pursuits; the honor system furnishes an incentive to make it more so. Better the old system, where the in-coming student left behind her at college vexatious thoughts as to marks, waiting for later years to prove her worth as an "honor" to Wellesley, on some more substantial basis than that of fractions of per cents.

ANNIE F. BABCOCK, 1902.

## ALUMNÆ NOTES.

Miss Susan Wade Peabody, a well-known graduate of the class of '86, is now at the head of Kelly Hall, University of Chicago.

Mrs. Katherine Dill Brown, '87, is again teaching mathematics at Drexel Institute, Philadelphia.

Miss Mary Keyt Isham, '94, is studying medicine at one of the Cincinnati Medical Schools.

Miss Mabel Keller is training at the Shaw School in Wellesley Hills.

Miss Virginia Sherwood, '96, is doing brilliant work with her classes in English in the Women's College in New York.

Jessie Evans, '96, is teaching in the Philadelphia High School for girls.

Cordelia Nevers, '96, who went out to South Africa in '98, to teach in a suburb of Johannesburg, remained in the Transvaal during the war, though her school there was broken up. Miss Nevers is now teaching in the training school in Pretoria, which is at the head of the finely-organized English school system.

Miss Florence Painter, '97, is in Needham, Mass., taking care of her sister, who is very ill.

Miss Lucy Allen, '97, is Head of the English Department in the Women's College, New York.

Miss Lucy Jane Freeman, '97, and Miss Sarah C. Weaver, Instructor in Rhetoric, 1892-95, are spending a few weeks in Wellesley.

Miss Emily Hoopes, '97, sailed on January 4 for Naples. Miss Hoopes will be abroad until May.

Miss Flora Skinner, '99, is spending the spring in Boston.

Miss Florence Bailey, '00, is teaching school in Wisconsin.

Miss Irene Smith, '00, has just returned from Europe, where she has been traveling since June, 1900.

Miss Bertha Hart, formerly '00, is studying music in New York City.

Miss Alice Elizabeth Chase, 1900, who has been ill at her home in Philadelphia for several weeks, has resumed her duties at Drexel Institute.

Miss Frances Ada Hall, '01, is teaching at Ponce, a town on the south coast of Porto Rico. Miss Hall has recently announced her engagement to Mr. George D. Buckley, formerly of Fitchburg, Mass., now of Janco, P. R.

Miss Mabel Lubeck, formerly 1902, is spending the winter in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Miss Bessie Porter, '01, is teaching in the Lowell Training School.



# College News.

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Business Manager: Caroline Wright Rogers.

The honor system at Wellesley is one which seems to have popularity with but a small number of the students. Many disapprove of it strongly. Since the system so directly effects the student body it would be well to find what their pleasure is about the matter and act accordingly.

BLANCHE EMMONS, 1903.

I object to the honor system, first, because it fails in what I suppose is its chief motive for being, the proper encouragement of studiousness among the girls. It affects those whom it should not and does not reach those whom it should. Girls who care enough about scholarship, and who already study to the limit of their capacity, work themselves into a passion of effort at these glittering promises of honors, sit up late at night and lay foundations for a nervous breakdown; while the girls who do not study enough feel themselves so far behind in the race that they make no effort to catch up, but loiter along at their usual easy pace, unquickenened by any stir of ambition. I object to the honor system also because it introduces the motive, fortunately unknown in Wellesley before, of working for an empty honor instead of for scholarship.

LOUISE S. HASBROUCK, 1904.

"Are you in favor of scholarships, and if not, why not?" is the question asked on all sides. For my part, because I see no good, but rather some harm, that they do. Their supporters claim that they are a proper recognition of a girl's ability.

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ognition of a girl's ability. But why do we need such recognitions? There are dozens of ways of showing our appreciation, less formal, but no less telling. Then it is claimed that they are a reward of good academic work. The idea is absurd that a college girl, here for the best she can get out of her course, will consider it any reward to have her name noised about College for a few days as a Durant or Wellesley College Scholar and forgotten in less than a week.

If, then, they are not considered a fitting reward, they will certainly not raise the standard of scholarship. No girl who does not think them worth while is going to double her efforts to obtain one. Or if they were regarded as the best things in College, would they not serve rather to bring down the standard than to raise it? If all courses in College are ranked at the same, a girl who feels she must have a scholarship would, at least, be subject to the temptation to avoid the hard courses and to take the snaps—there are a few left, you know.

Then that they are a step toward the Phi Beta Kappa seems scarcely true. Wellesley College is sufficiently well known to attract the attention of the Phi Beta Kappa without any superficial recognition such as these scholarships. And, since the records would have to be looked up anyway, why are these outside designations necessary?

If, however, they merely did no good, we could tolerate them, but did you ever notice after Chapel the downcast expression of the girl who had worked for a scholarship, who had expected to get one, and had been disappointed? Where is the recognition of her ability or the reward for her academic work? Think of the feeling of shame, of disappointment, of discouragement which she has to endure, and consider whether natural ability should be so formally recognized.

FLORENCE W. HUTSINPILLAR, 1904.

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## SCHOLARSHIPS—Continued.

Now that the honor system is fairly established, it is natural that the strongest criticism of it comes from those who oppose it. In their ardor they declare that *formal* recognition of excellence in academic work is neither needed nor desired, that the whole thing favors an unwholesome working for marks, and that girls who devote their energies to scholarly work in some special line are not given a fair chance. This last grievance seems just. If we adopt a policy of public honors, it seems consistent that we go more than *half-way* about it, to appreciate all scholarly work. But as to the other complaints, why should girls work for marks, if formal recognition be so desired? Yet those who oppose the system say that the very ones who have high enough ideas to dislike formal recognition, to gain it, will stoop to a superficial attitude toward study. If working for marks means that a hollow regard for work is fostered, that certainly violates the aim of the system, but should we not hesitate before we allow it to mean this end, and condemn the scholarships?

FRANKIE ELIZABETH SULLIVAN, 1902.

It was asserted last year that an honor system would result in the election of "snap" courses. I think this is disproved by an examination of the schedules of the honor students. As for the assertion that a system of honors brings a low motive into academic work, I do not think this statement can be maintained. In the primary and secondary schools where the work is to a great extent mechanical, "marks" can assume the importance of an end in themselves, but in college, "work" is largely a matter of appreciation, it is not one mere performance of definitely assigned tasks. One's appreciation of poetry, one's interpretation of Plato, one's conception of time and space, or even the convergency and divergency of series are not things that one can objectify in "working for marks." "Academic work" is an empty word unless it contains all the best part of our individuality and experience. One may receive passing grade in college work by perfunctory performance of one's task, or even in some cases "credit," but the college work for which college honors are intended, is work that is entered into for nothing less than love of the work itself; into the performance of which, no thought so mean as "marks" has entered.

But the recognition is no less sweet if it comes.

GERTRUDE SCHOPPERLE, 1903.

In this matter of honor scholarship, the sentiment of the college, if the phrase be taken to mean the sentiment of the majority, seems to be indifference. Partisans or opponents, there are few of either, who are sincere in their opinions. Those who are crying down the system, have but one argument to put forward:—it means "working for marks," is therefore undesirable. But it is especially notable that most of the names on the lists are those of girls who do not and will not study for the sake of getting high marks, but who "for the joy of the working" do their mental work with the same interest and pleasure that the crews carry to their muscular labor, or the Glee Club to their music. The girl who plays tennis well or sings well, or acts well, or who possesses executive ability, is recognized for her powers. Why should not the girl of mental ability be recognized for it? Since the traditions of Wellesley condemn "working for marks," it is reasonable to suppose that this system of recognizing merit by honor scholarship will not deteriorate into that practice.

SIBYL BAKER, 1904.

Although we hear a good deal of the general opposition to the present system of honor scholarship, this opposition upon inquiry seems to have anything but a convincing basis. It melts away into vague nothings, with "working for marks," the only, comparatively, distinct feature in it. To a great degree, I think the use of this term, merely the use of a convenient catch-word, flung out at the beginning of the discussion, and a use without any real conviction or thought behind it. That we are working to some end, I think will be generally admitted, this scholarship is merely the recognition of good progress toward it. In every other department of college life, merit receives a definite mark of approval, executive ability, social ability, athletic ability, why not intellectual ability, which, it would seem, might be considered one of the important aspects of life here. If we do not begrudge the recognition of our friends' voices, and muscles, and charms, why should we of their brains?

CLARA STANTON MORE, 1904.

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## NOTES.

The engagement has been announced of Miss Katherine Fuller, formerly of 1900, and Mr. Philip Cabot of Boston.

Miss A. Elizabeth Wiggin, '90, was married last September in Boston, to Mr. Curtis Robinson Crowell.

On February 22, Miss Grace Cole, of 1897-8, was married to Mr. Augustus Wood of Philadelphia.

Miss Mary Caswell is away from college and will not return till after the Easter vacation.

The 1905 Rowing Squad for the spring season is posted as follows: 1st squad, E. Ball, A. Clause, L. P. Greene, J. Holder, E. Johnson, E. Kingsbury, E. Little, F. McCormick, J. L. McIntyre, J. J. Poynter, Capt. H. L. Robertson, S. J. Woodward. Second squad, M. Dowd, Capt. M. Field, J. Hall, A. Hamblen, E. A. Hollick, C. Kimball, E. Lodwick, H. R. Norton, R. W. Pflaum, H. Waples, G. Wells, F. J. Wolfson. Coxswains, E. Cole, L. K. French, H. Rollins. The first meeting was held Friday, March 14, in the Gymnasium.

A meeting of the Hartford Wellesley Club, was held on Saturday, March 8th, at the home of Miss Clara D. Capron.

The subject of the meeting was "The Work of Wellesley Alumnae in the World." The subject was divided as follows:

"In the Home"..... Mrs. F. Scudder Williams.  
 "Abroad"..... Miss Katharine Horton.  
 "In the Professions"..... Miss Florence Crofut.

After the papers, Wellesley songs were sung, and then the college cheer was given. Afternoon tea was served.

Mrs. Alice Meynell, the English essayist, is expected to visit Wellesley in the near future.

LOST:—In the village of Wellesley, an open-faced gold watch, engraved on back "F. E. F." Finder will please return to The Tea Room.

Officers have recently been chosen for the Washington, D. C., Wellesley Club, as follows: President, Miss Louise G. Saxton; Vice President, Mrs. Louise Taylor Jones; Secretary, Miss Edna Spaulding; Treasurer, Dr. Julia M. Green; Business Manager, Miss Lida M. Raynal.

Richard Harding Davis's long novel, his most ambitious work, which begins in the April *Scribner's*, has for its hero a young West Pointer who was dismissed from the Academy and tries to retrieve his military reputation by adventures in a revolution in Honduras. This novel is to be illustrated by Walter Appleton Clark.

### THEATRE BULLETIN.

Hollis..... John Drew, "The Second in Command."  
 Colonial..... "Ben Hur."  
 Tremont..... "King Dodo."  
 Bijou..... "La Traviata."  
 Museum..... Ethel Barrymore, "Captain Jinks."  
 Children's Theatre..... "The New Puss in Boots."

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## COLLEGE NOTES.

Dr. Schauffler delivered an address on Slum Life in New York City, last Sunday night, in College Hall Chapel. The talk was illustrated by stereopticon views.

Considerable interest has been manifested in the formation of a French club, in accordance with the general movement toward French clubs in many colleges. At a recent meeting here, a temporary organization of those interested was effected, with Laura Wood as chairman. Miss Schaeys, the head of the French department in college, has been most helpful in the new organization, as well as in the plans and rehearsal for the French play.

The results of the Athletic Association elections held on last Thursday, March 13, resulted as follows:

President, May Landis; Vice-president, Elizabeth Bass; Secretary, Elizabeth Coleman; Treasurer, Mary McKinney; Faculty Member, Miss Roberts; Student Members, Grace Dean, Mary Follet, Olive Nevins; Advisory Committee, Bessie Halsey, Mary Haines.

## Wellesley - Vassar Debate.

As a result of the trial debate on last Friday evening, Miss Bertha Woods, '02, Miss Frances Warren, '02, and Miss Louise Hunter, '04, were chosen as the final representatives of Wellesley against Vassar.

Last Saturday evening was given the much-talked-about French play, "Les Précieuses Ridicules," a comedy by Molière, for which there had been a large sale of seats. Aside from the pleasure derived through this annual presentation of a play, there is much value in the careful training in accent and pronunciation which the rehearsals give, this being personally supervised by the French instructors. The play was a success in every detail, and much credit should be given the students who interpreted so well Molière's famous play.

On Monday evening, March 17, the New York University Glee, Banjo and Mandolin Clubs gave an unusually brilliant concert in the Wellesley Town Hall. The clubs are the best ones we have heard this year, being far better than the average college clubs.

## COLLEGE CALENDAR.

- Thursday, March 13. College reception in Stone Hall parlor.  
 Saturday, March 15. At 3.20 Miss Davis lectured. Evening, the French play at the Barn.  
 Sunday, March 16. The Reverend A. F. Schauffler, D. D., preached in Houghton Memorial Chapel. Evening, address by Dr. Schauffler.  
 Monday, March 17. Concert.  
 Saturday, March 22. Barnswallows.  
 Sunday, March 23. The Reverend James Grant of Watertown will preach.  
 Thursday, March 27. College closes.  
 Wednesday, April 9. College opens.  
 Saturday, April 12. Lecture by Professor Cook.  
 Sunday, April 13. The Reverend Thomas D. Anderson of Providence, R. I., will preach in Houghton Memorial Chapel. Musical vespers.  
 Sunday, April 20. The Reverend William F. McDowell of New York City, will preach.  
 Sunday, April 27. Robert E. Spear of New York City, will preach. Musical vespers.

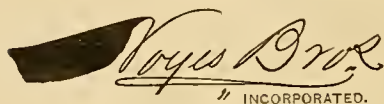
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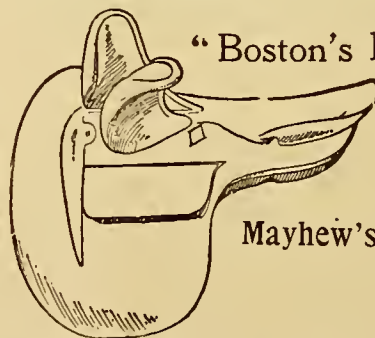
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